



7

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BRERETON

FRED
HARPER

NEIL GAIMAN'S



JULY *Lady* FETTER

WOMAN
ABOUT TOWN
PART TWO



\$2.25 U.S. \$3.10 CANADA \$1.75 U.K.



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NEIL GAIMAN'S *Lady* **JUSTICE**

She Is Justice.

Represented since the beginning of time
as a robed woman, blinded, armed with
naught but a sword and a sense of balance.

A woman cut off from the masculine world
of clues and hard realities, forced into
the depths of her remaining senses -
touch, smell, taste, hearing.

A woman joined with her innermost self,
focused only on her mission. A woman
who cannot be deceived, cannot be fooled.

A woman blind...


...To all but justice.

"Life begins on the other side of despair."
— Jean-Paul Sartre

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JODI...I...


WRONG. JODI IS
IN THE HOSPITAL.
SHE'S IN SHOCK.
HER STUPID
JAILBIRD OF A
FIANCE IS DEAD.



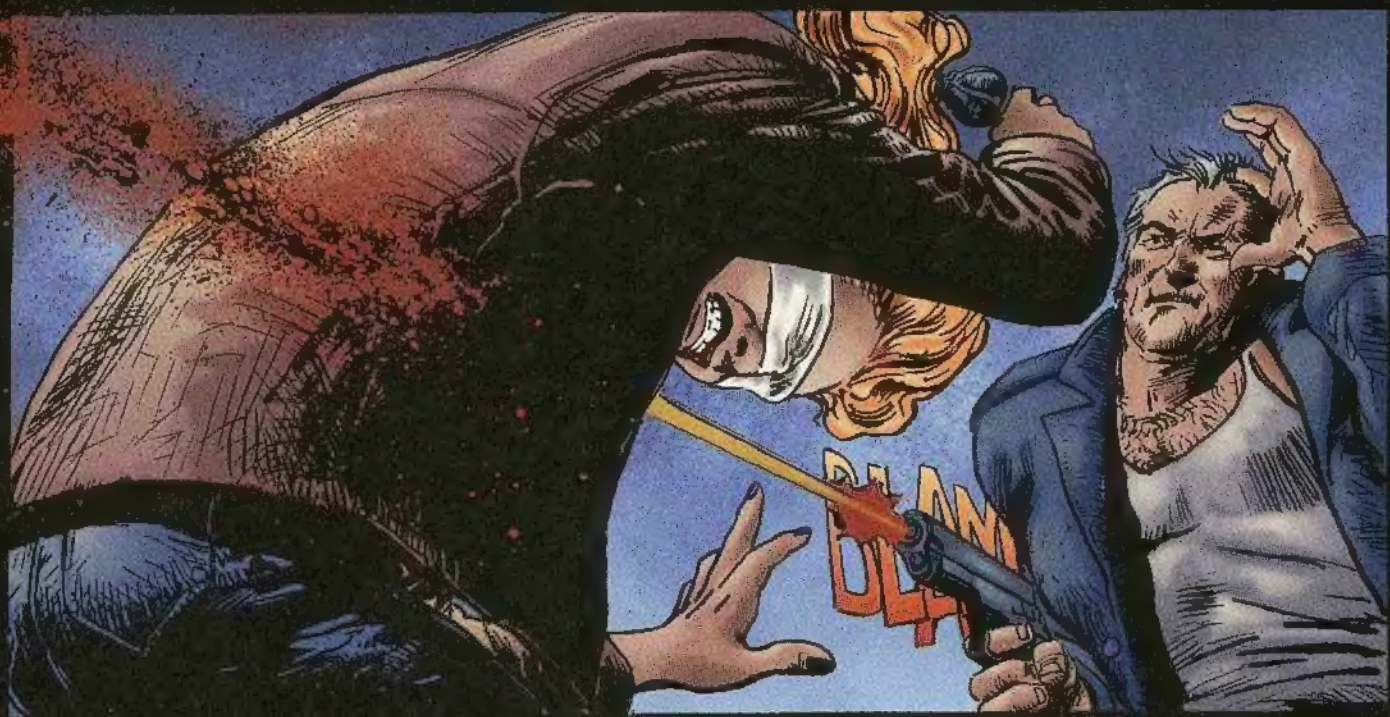
SO IS HER
UNBORN CHILD.
SHE
MISCARRIED
OVER AN
HOUR AGO.



JESUS.



NO, THE NAME IS
JUSTICE, AND I'VE
COME FOR **SOME**,
HOT AND STEAMING.




THAT'S OKAY. -
NNGH- I CONSIDER
MYSELF PARTIALLY
TO *BLAME*, SO YOU
GO AHEAD AND
SHOOT ME.

SAY
WHAT?


SHE WAS MY SISTER...
AND SHE WAS GOING
TO MARRY
THAT BOY, HAVE HIS
CHILD. SHE WAS SO
HAPPY SHE
GLOWED LIKE AN
ANGEL ALL THE TIME.
SO I FIGURED
I'D TAKE SPECIAL CARE
OF HIM FOR HER...






I SHOULD HAVE
KEPT THE LITTLE FOOL
ON A SHORTER
LEASH... KEPT HIM
AWAY FROM AN ICE-
MAN LIKE YOU.

HOW
COULD YOU
HAVE DONE
THAT?




IT WAS MY
JOB.

BLAM
BLAM
BLAM



AFTER ALL...



I WAS HIS
PAROLE
OFFICER.



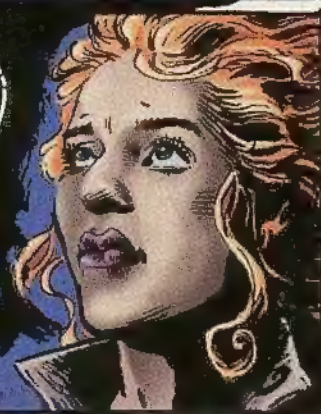
BUT JUSTICE
IS SERVED.
ISN'T THAT
RIGHT?

JUSTICE IS
SERVED... FOR
NOW...

ONE ROUND
LEFT. I
SHOULD EAT
IT MYSELF.

YOU WILL
NOT!

WE ARE NOT
FINISHED, JORDAN
HACKETT...



NEW FROM WARNER BOOKS™

LEONARD NIMOY'S
PRIMORTALS™



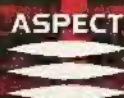
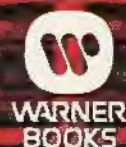
TARGET: EARTH

STEVE PERRY

AUTHOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING
STAR WARS™:
SHADOWS OF THE EMPIRE

**Eons ago, aliens visited Earth.
Now they're returning...
to reclaim what's theirs.**

A new hardcover novel coming in April 1997



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WHY? I
KILLED HIM!
LOOK AT
HIM!



HE WAS NOT ALONE.
MORE WILL ATONE FOR
THIS
OUTRAGE....



THE BLINDFOLD.
AS LONG AS YOU WEAR THE CLOTH,
YOUR WOUNDS CANNOT
IMPEDE YOU.



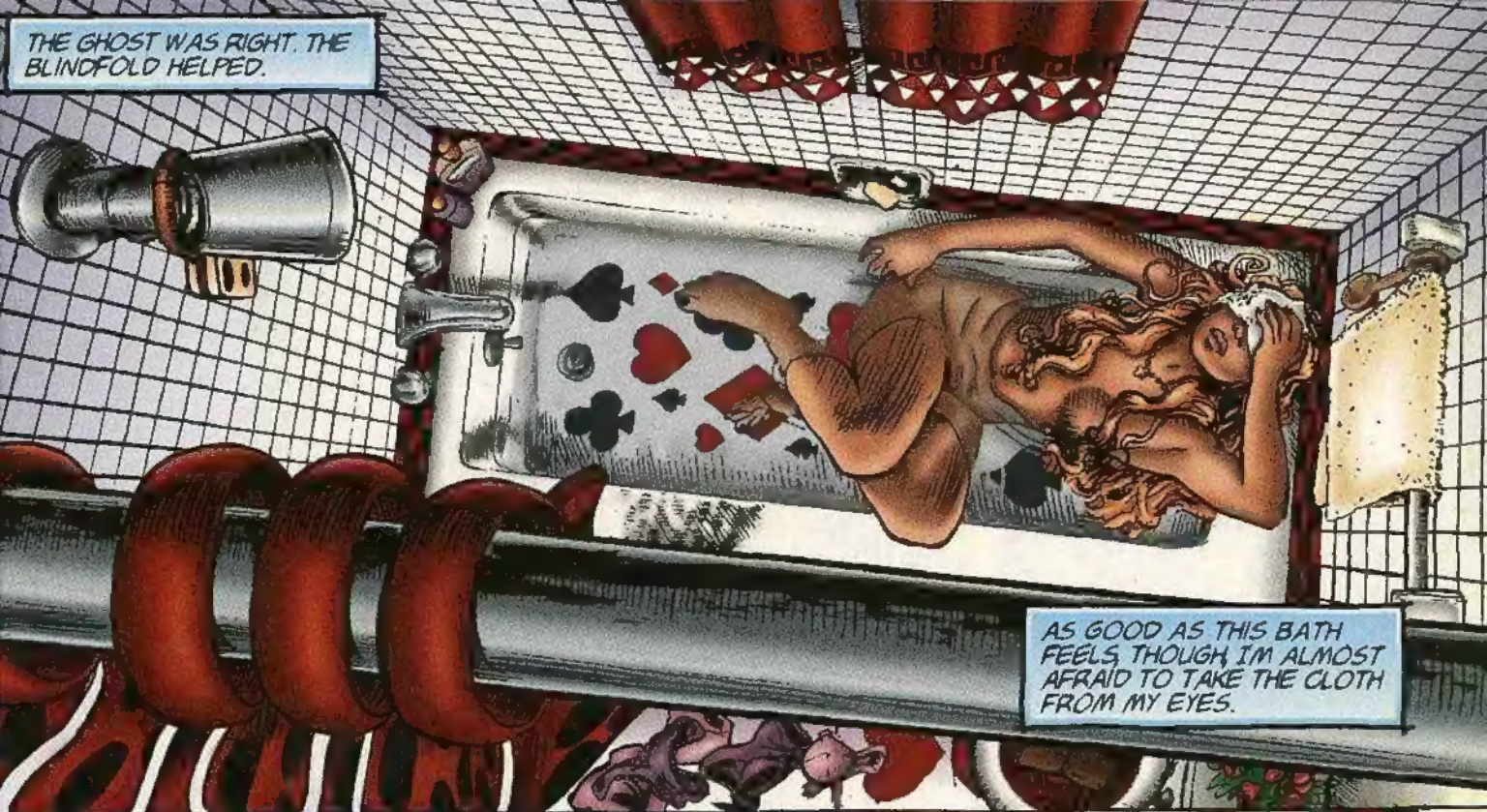
GO NOW. I HEAR THE
WAILING OF SIRENS.



ADIOS,
JAILBIRD.



THE GHOST WAS RIGHT. THE
BLINDFOLD HELPED.



AS GOOD AS THIS BATH
FEELS, THOUGH I'M ALMOST
AFRAID TO TAKE THE CLOTH
FROM MY EYES.

SHE COULDN'T BE MORE
HELP IN THE INFORMATION
DEPARTMENT.

WONDER WHAT THE
BADASSS BILLFOLD HAS
TO TELL?

THAT'S GOT
TO BE JIM
TORO. HE'S
A BIG GUN IN
THIS TOWN.

I'D BET
ANYTHING HE
LAID OUT
THE POKER
GAME
SCORE.

THIS BASTARD SHARES THE
BLAME FOR JODI'S
CONDITION, HER MAN'S
DEATH... HER BABY'S TOO...



BRRRIIINNGG!

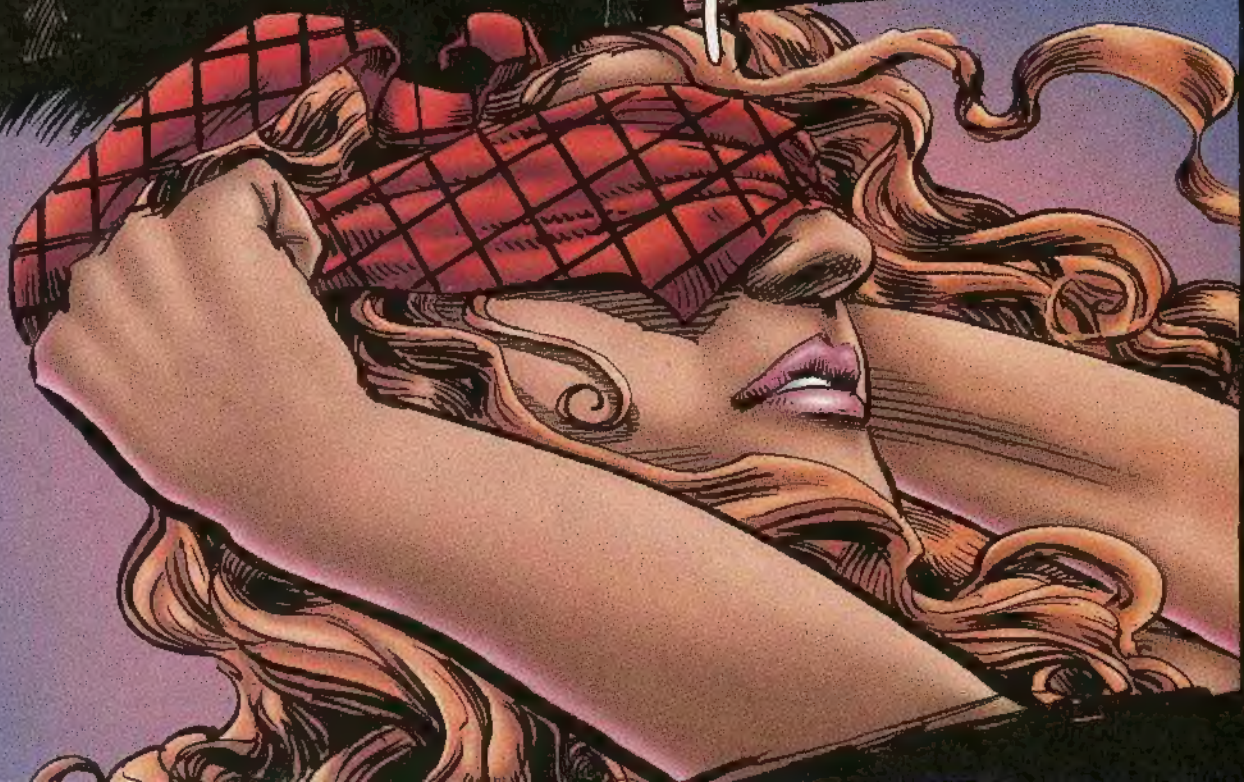
HI, JORDAN, THIS IS DR. NOVUS AT
JOHN MUIR, CONCERNING YOUR
SISTER, JODI. COULD YOU PLEASE
COME DOWN TO THE HOSPITAL?
YOUR SISTER---

OMIGOD,
JODI!!!
THEY'VE
GOT HER...

I'LL NEVER
MAKE IT...

CLICK-A-CLICK IF YOU
WOULD LIKE TO MAKE
A CALL, PLEASE HANG
UP AND TRY--CLICKA-
CLICK - BEEEEEEEEEP.

I'LL NEVER
MAKE IT IN
TIME...!!





CLICHAK!

...AS YOU CAN SEE,
IT'S IMPORTANT THAT
JODI RECEIVE AS
MUCH AS POSSIBLE...

HUH?

AND ALTHOUGH YOUR
SISTER'S CONDITION HAS IMPROVED
SOMEWHAT, IT WOULD BE GOOD
TO HAVE YOU HERE, ESPECIALLY
SINCE SHE MAY COME OUT OF HER
FUNK ANY TIME.


...GOOD-
NIGHT.

BEEEEEP

CLICK!

...THIS IS...
THIS IS *SO*
MESSED-
UP...

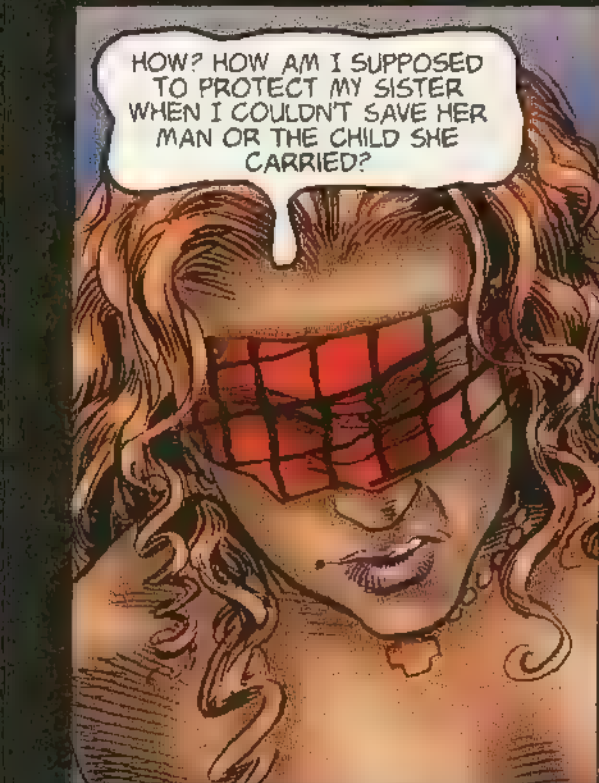
WE ARE DOING BY THE DARKEST
CHAINS, JORDAN HACKETT. YOUR
SISTER FEELS THEIR WEIGHT. MOST
OF ALL...




WHY KID MYSELF?
THAT WASN'T *ME*
BACK THERE. IT
WAS *YOU*. YOU
KILLED CLAY.

MAKE NO
MISTAKE... THE DEED
WAS YOURS. THE ACT
WAS FUELED BY
YOUR WILL AS WELL

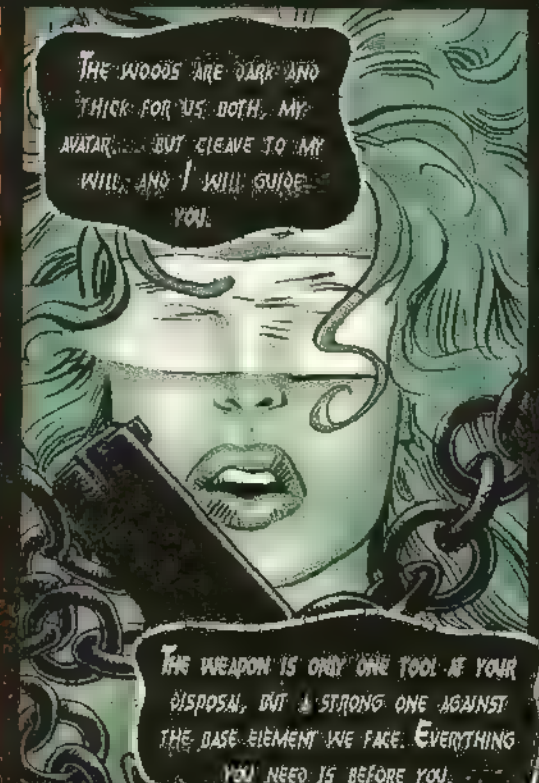
AND NOW YOUR DEED WILL AVENGE
YOUR SIN AND SHEAR THE CHAINS
FORGED OF WRONGDOING.



HOW? HOW AM I SUPPOSED
TO PROTECT MY SISTER
WHEN I COULDN'T SAVE HER
MAN OR THE CHILD SHE
CARRIED?



WITH THIS? IS
THIS GOING TO
SOLVE
EVERYTHING,
GHOST?



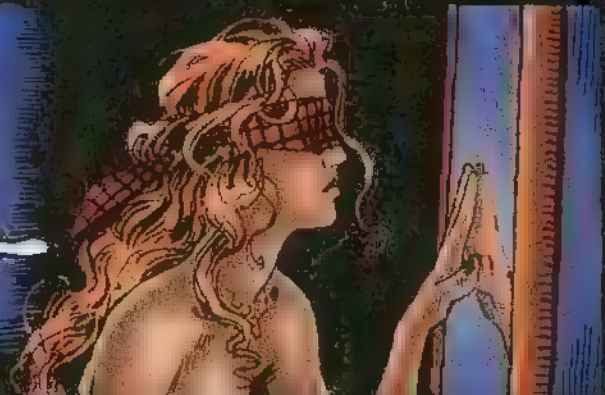
THE WOODS ARE DARK AND
THICK FOR US BOTH. MY
AVATAR... BUT CLEAVE TO MY
WILL, AND I WILL GUIDE
YOU.

THE WEAPON IS ONLY ONE TOOL AT YOUR
DISPOSAL, BUT A STRONG ONE AGAINST
THE BASE ELEMENT THE FACE. EVERYTHING
YOU NEED IS BEFORE YOU.



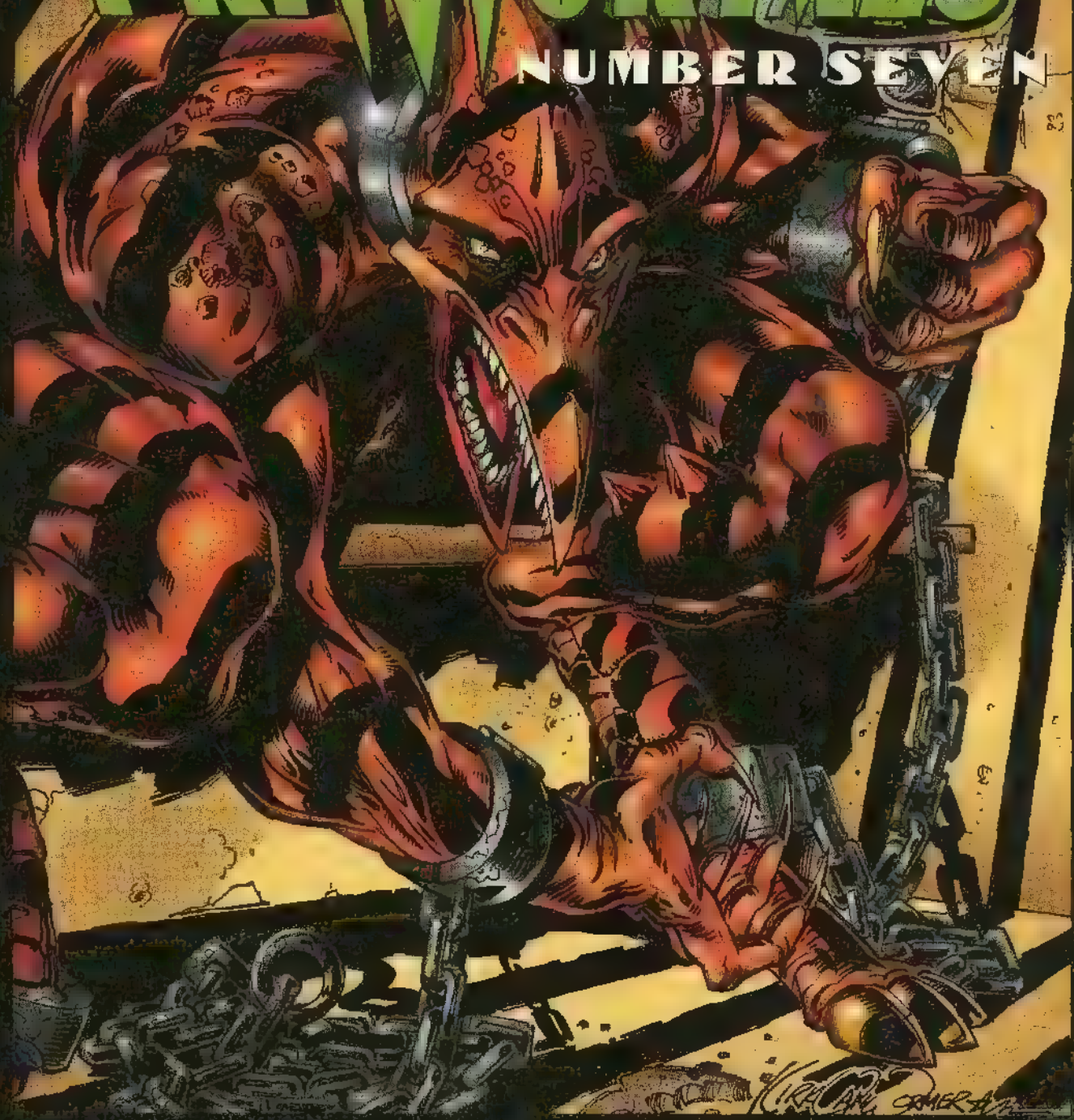
"EVERYTHING
I NEED", HUH?

I DON'T SEE A
DAMN THING.



COMING IN DECEMBER:

LEONARD NIMOY'S
PRIMORTALS
NUMBER SEVEN



Christopher Mills, Pat Broderick, Michael Palmer and Prismacolor bring you...

...ZEERUS IN CHAINS!

Bad birds, bad birds, what'cha gonna do?
What'cha gonna do when they come for you?

TORO'S DRINKING
ESTABLISHMENT, THE
FOLLOWING MORNING

WORKING
STREETS
LOUNGE

YOU WANT
WHAT, YOU
LITTLE...??

HIGH
NOON

OH, MAN... ALL'S I
WANT IS MY LAST
CHECK, JIM! YOU
KNOW I'M GOING
BACK TO SCHOOL
THIS WEEK!

BIGSKI
VODKA

AIN'T YOU
HEARD NOTHING
'BOUT GIVIN' **TWO**
WEEKS, BOY!?

SURE I GAVE
NOTICE, JIM. I
GAVE MY TWO
WEEKS, TWO
WEEKS AGO!

YOU FRESH LITTLE SCUM-
WIPER! YOU DON'T GET FRESH
WITH **ME**, KID!

I'LL KICK YOUR
FUCKIN' HEAD OFF
AND SHOW YOU
YOUR LAST FUCKIN'
THOUGHT!

NOW YOU GOT A CHOICE,
KID. YOU CAN TAKE THE
CASH OR YOU GO
THROUGH LIFE AS A
GODDAMN CRIPPLE.



HEY!
MELONHEAD!

GET YOUR CHEESE-
FLAVORED HEAD
OUT HERE, GENIUS!



YEAH



GOT A BIRDIE IN
THE DEPARTMENT,
MELON. SAYS CLAY
LIED.

SAYS DRUGS WAS
AT THAT POKER
GAME. SAYS CLAY
MUSTA' FOUND
THEM DRUGS AT
THE SCENE.

CLAY HAS
THE DRUGS?



CLAY IS DEAD, IDIOT. BUT
YES, HE HAD THE DRUGS,
AND THE BASTARD
LIED... LIED TO *ME!*

I WANT THE
DRUGS, MELON.
CHECK OUT
CLAY'S FLOP.



TWO MORE THINGS.
HAVE THE SMART
ONE FIND OUT WHO
WHACKED THAT
JAILBIRD SHITHEAD.

OKAY, JIM.
WHAT'S
NUMBER
TWO?

GO AFTER THAT
CANDY-BAR-EATING
LITTLE COLLEGE
BUTTWIPE.



YOU MEAN BRETT, THE
BAR-BACK? YOU WANT
ME TO FETCH HIS LAST
WAGES? HIS CHECK'S
IN THE SAFE.

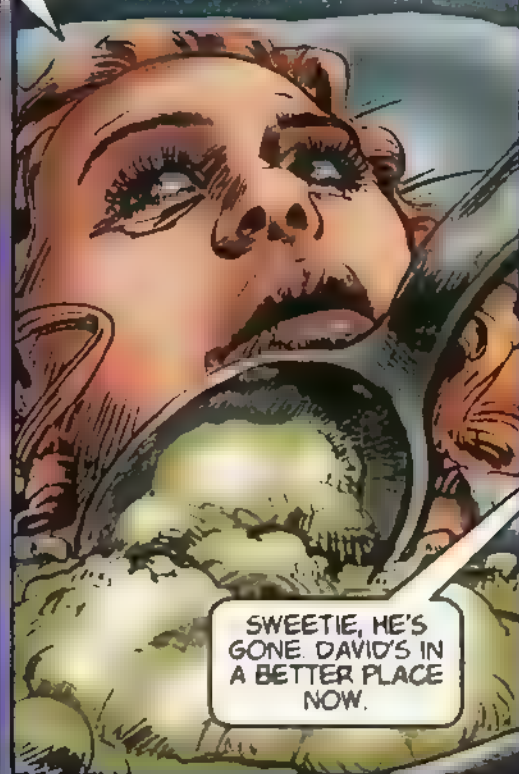
HUH! HELL, NO!
I WANT YOU TO
BEAT THE CRAP
OUT OF HIM.



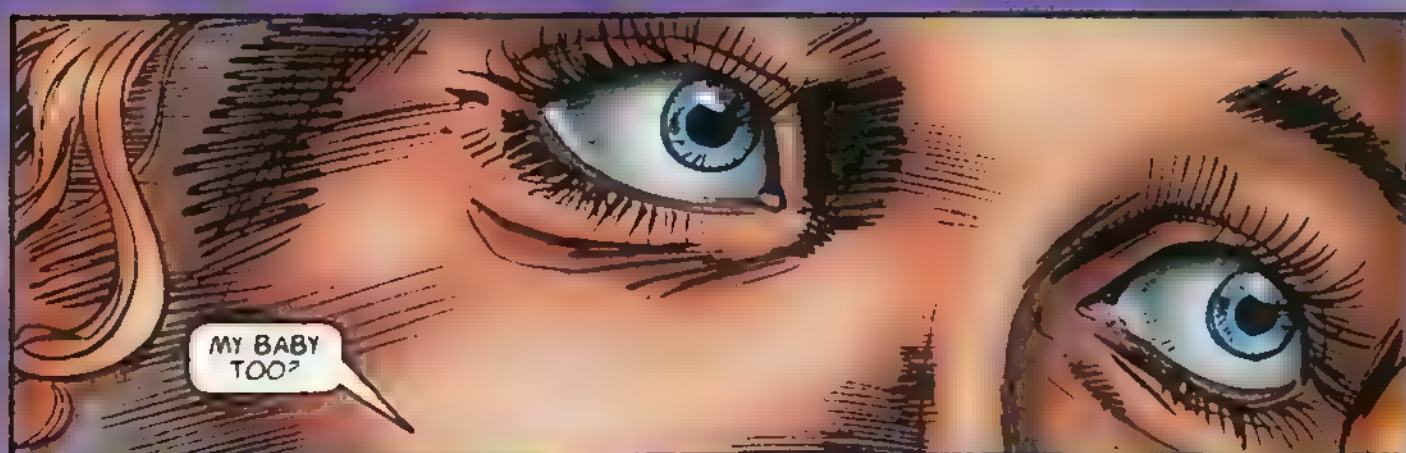
C'MON SUGAR,
TRY A LITTLE
MASHED
POTATOES.

WANNA SEE
MY LITTLE
SKEETER

I NEVER
LIKED THAT
NICKNAME.



SWEETIE, HE'S
GONE. DAVID'S IN
A BETTER PLACE
NOW.



MY BABY
TOO?



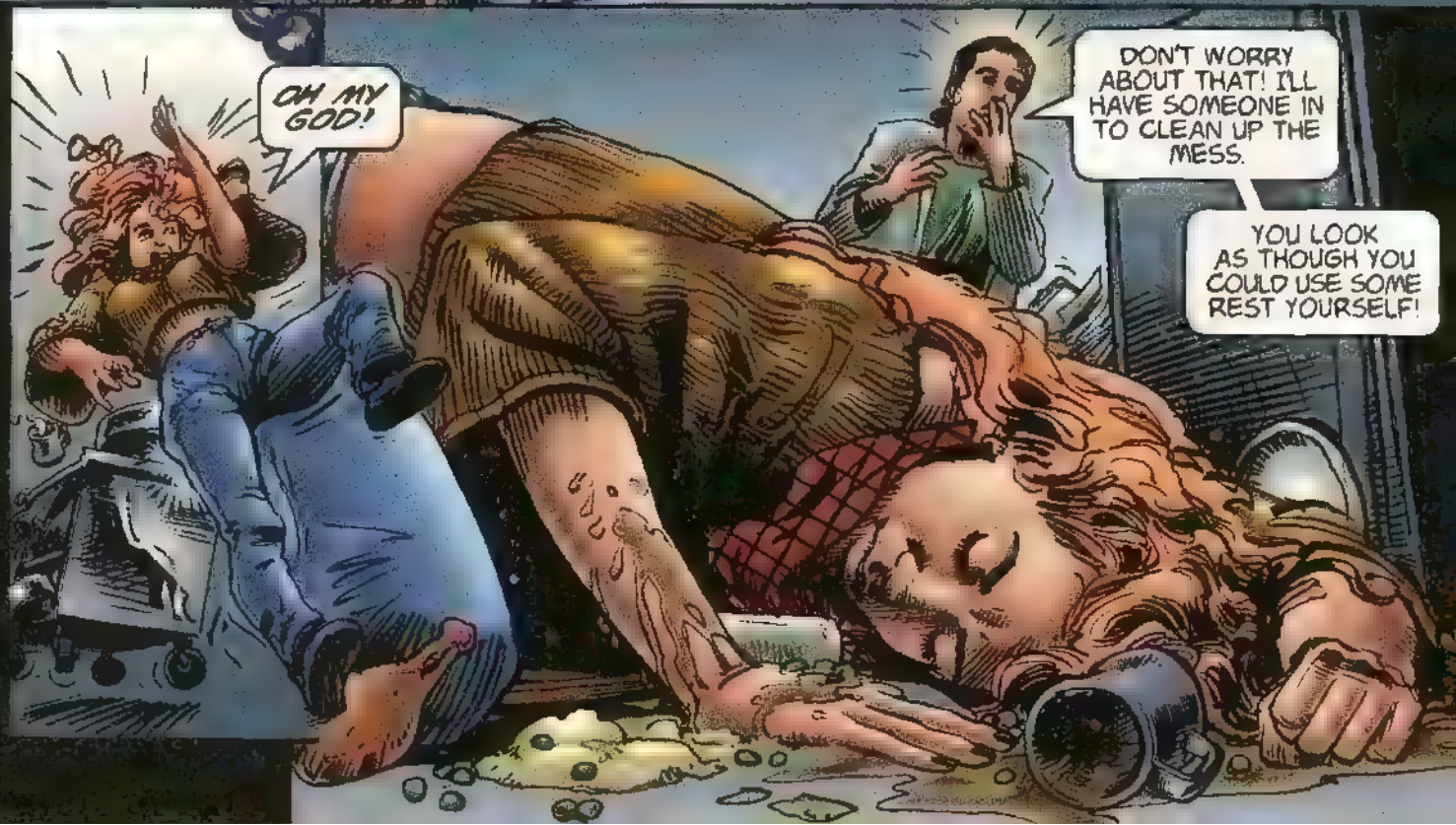
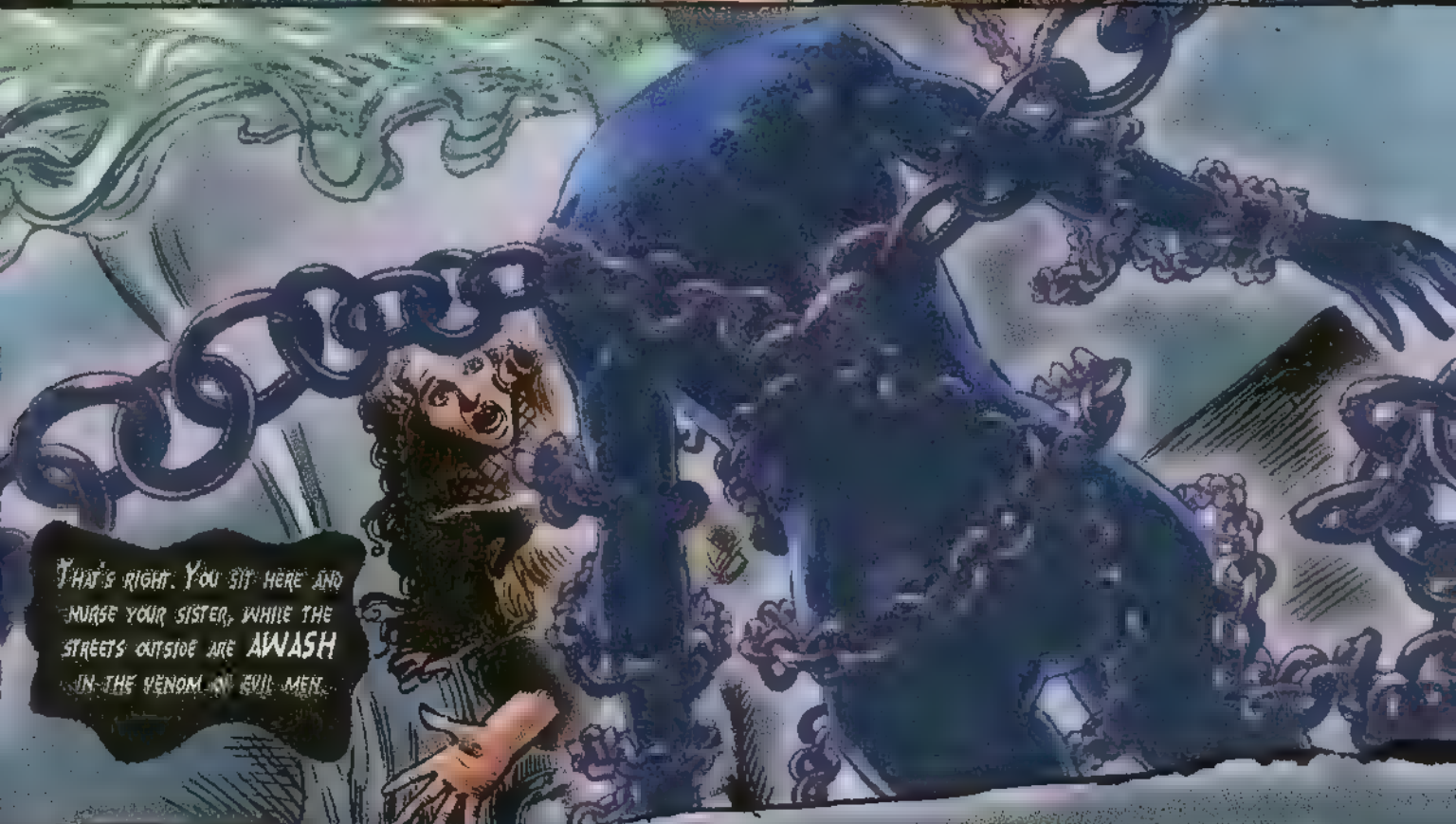
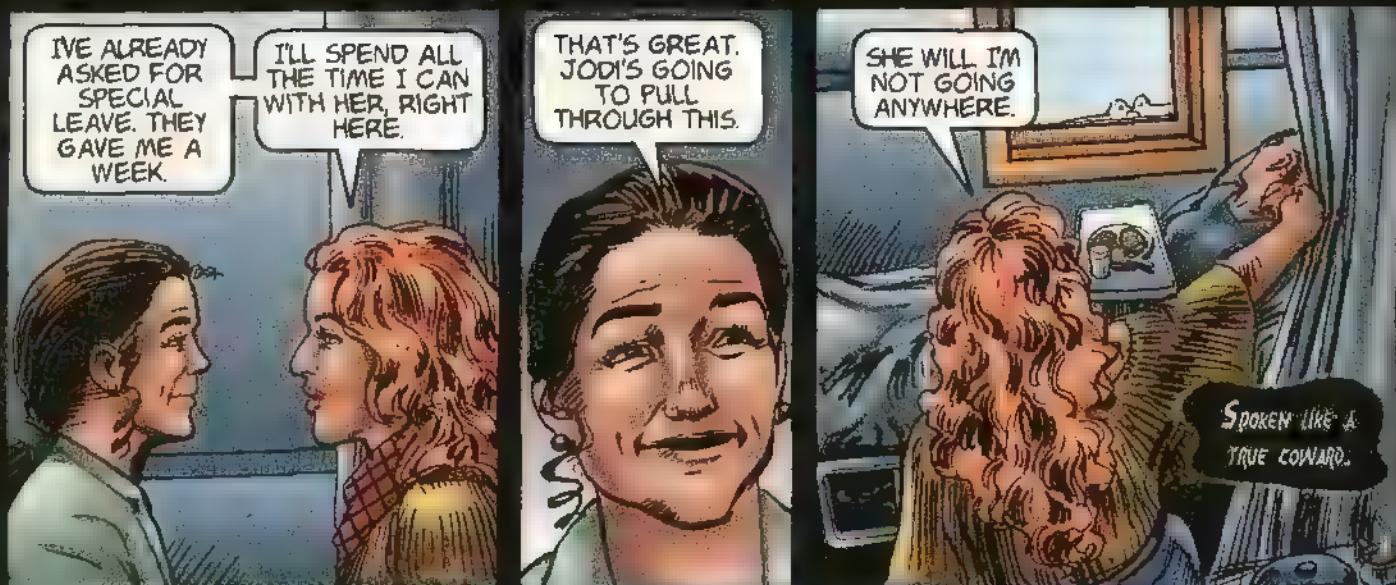
JORDAN? I'M DR
NOVUS. IT'S NICE
TO FINALLY GET
TO MEET YOU.

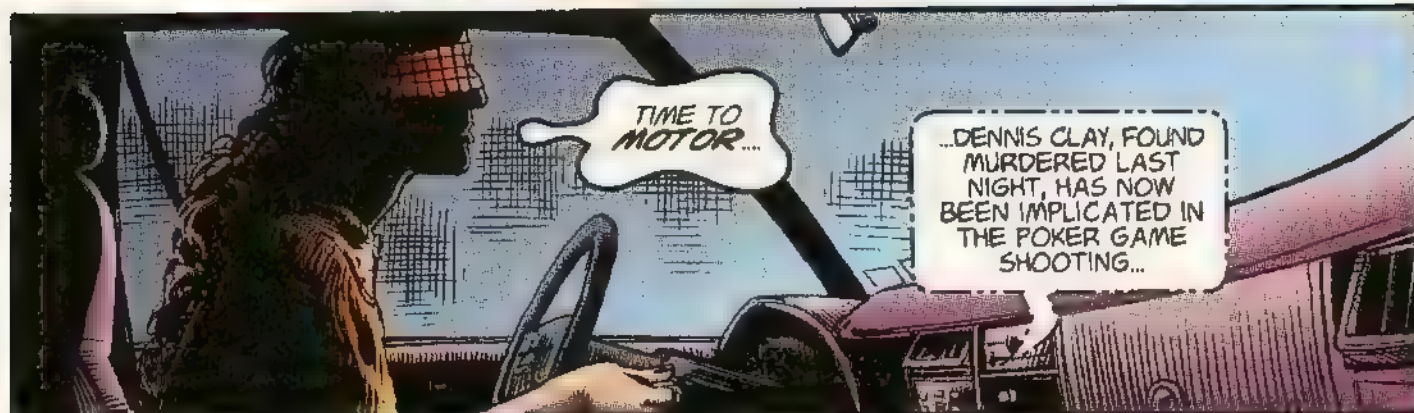
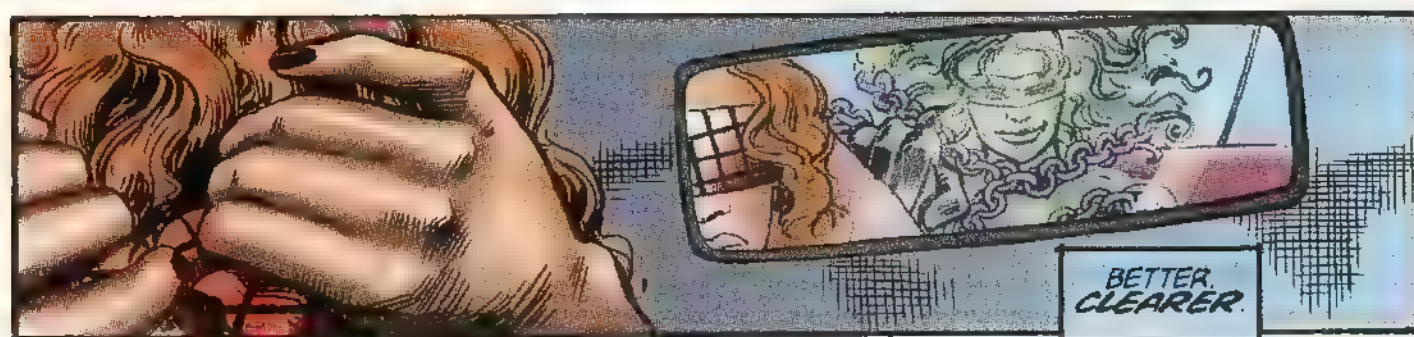
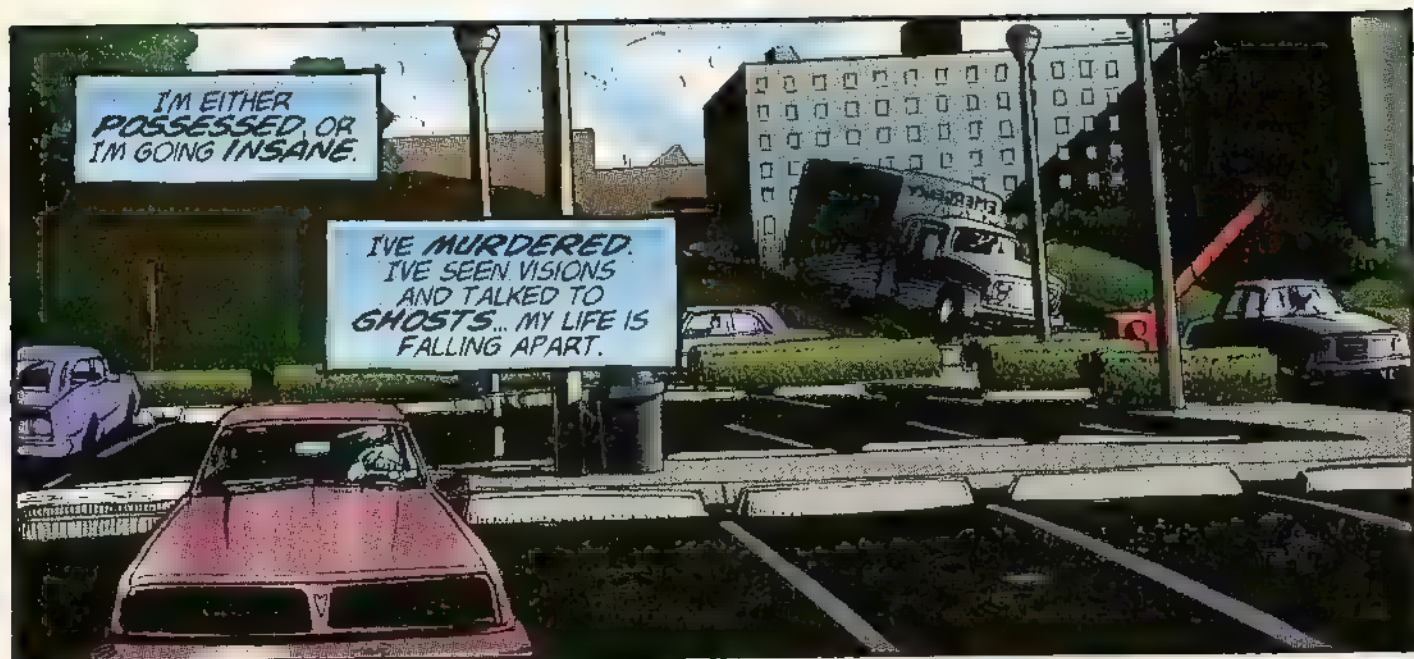
JODI'S RECOVERY
WILL DEPEND
LARGELY ON THE
QUALITY OF REST
SHE GETS, BUT
FAMILY CONTACT
IS IMPORTANT AS
WELL.



SHE... SHE
LOOKS ...

I KNOW.
YOUR BEING
HERE IS *SO*
IMPORTANT.





HI-FI SCI-FI

THERE ARE A lot of great things about doing science fiction in comics.

For one, there's no limit on your special effects budget. You want strange extraterrestrial creatures landing in the heart of New York City? No problem. A world of the future, where a once familiar skyline is barely recognizable? Sure. A desolate planet ruled over by an ancient saurian devil? You got it... well, as long as we keep the artists happy, that is.

But that's another cool thing. Most writers and artists I've met love science fiction, and they get really jazzed about doing it in comics. Which is good, since creators tend to do their best work when they're enthusiastic about a project. Once you let an excited creative type loose, though, you'd better be prepared, because their thoughts tend to flow in floods, which explains why some of their most original and interesting ideas show up in science fiction stories.

And that's why some of the best work ever done in comic books is in the science fiction genre (another point in its favor). The list of creators and projects is too long to get into here, but I'm sure every reader can recall perusing at least one outstanding sci-fi comic.

In fact, science fiction is a tradition in comic books. The two go back a long way, and if you doubt me, check out a certain strange visitor from another world who exploded onto American newsstands at the dawn of this industry. Most superheroes, after all, have sprung from concepts first explored, one way or another, in science fiction stories—alien visitors, time travelers,

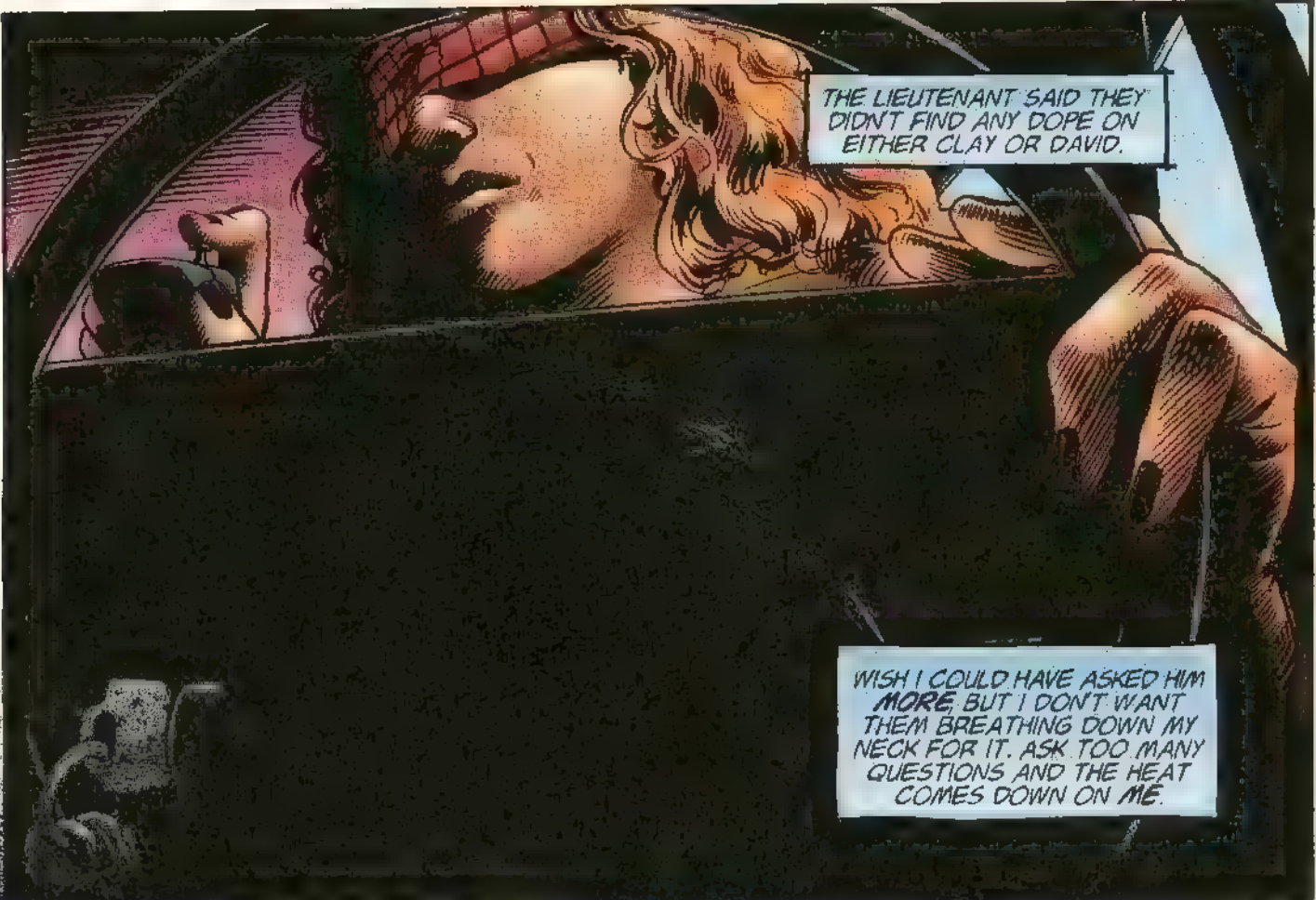
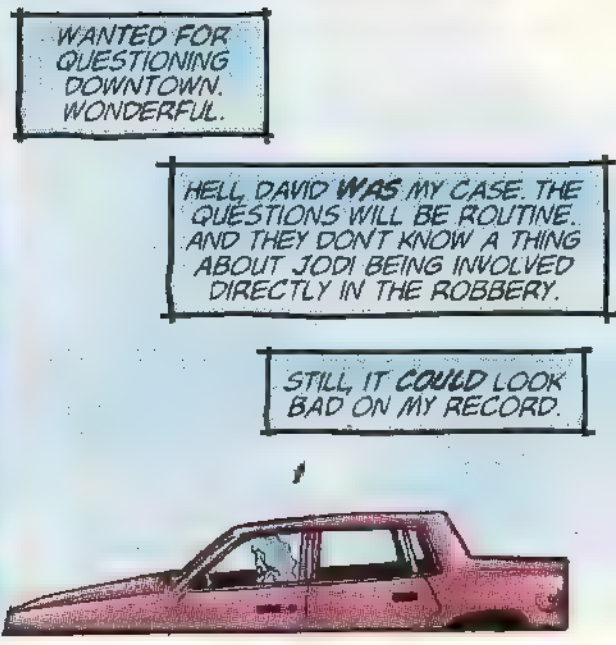
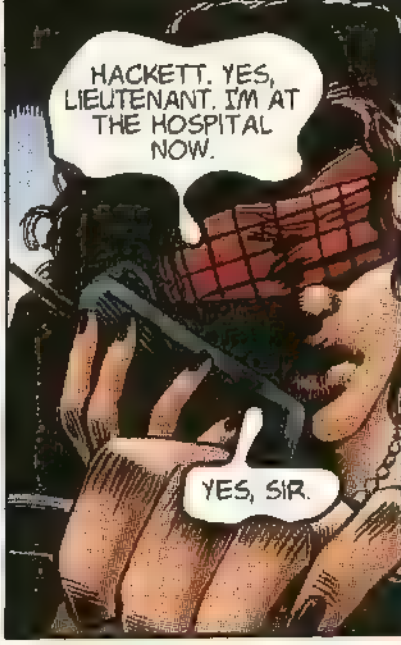
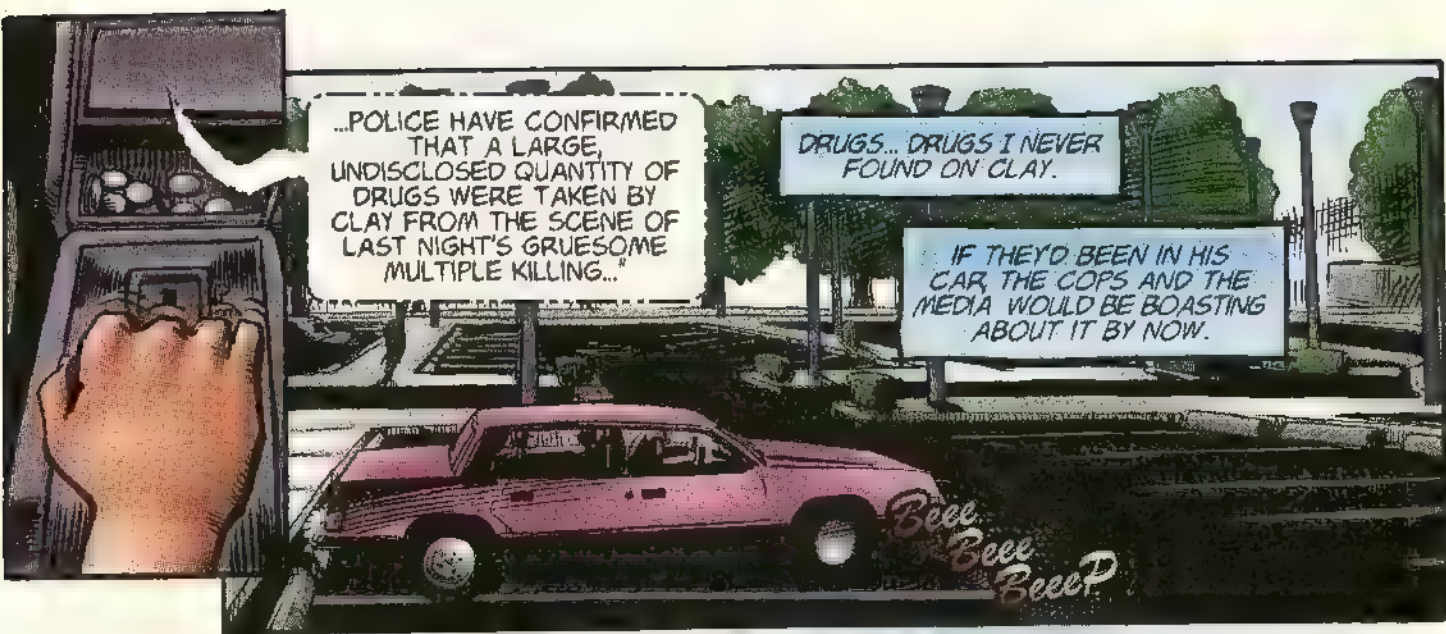
clones, mutants. And non-superheroic science fiction has maintained a steady presence in comics for over sixty years. From now defunct anthology books like *Planet Comics*™ and *Weird Science*™ to more familiar material like *Flash Gordon*™ and *Star Wars*™, science fiction has always been good to comics.

And there's been a lot of overlap between this industry and other sci-fi outlets such as books, magazines and television. Creators like Otto Binder, Ray Bradbury, Howard Chaykin, Gardner Fox, Larry Niven, Alex Schomburg, Walt Simonson, Al Williamson and many more have crafted science fiction stories in and out of the comic book field. Most recently, creators like Isaac Asimov, Leonard Nimoy and John Jakes have done the same thing in creating comics for Big Entertainment.

As an editor here, I've tried to tap into that tradition, to keep the flame burning through our line of science fiction comics. In many ways, I think these books have succeeded in contributing something back to the industry that inspired them. After all, in today's market where readers demand better and more diverse stories, science fiction seems like a natural answer, and lately, I've noticed some other publishers are answering the call, as well.

I've been a fan of comic books and science fiction pretty much since I learned to read, and both still excite me, especially when they're working together. Few other genres are as rich as this one. And, with a little luck, the connection will still be strong sixty years from now.

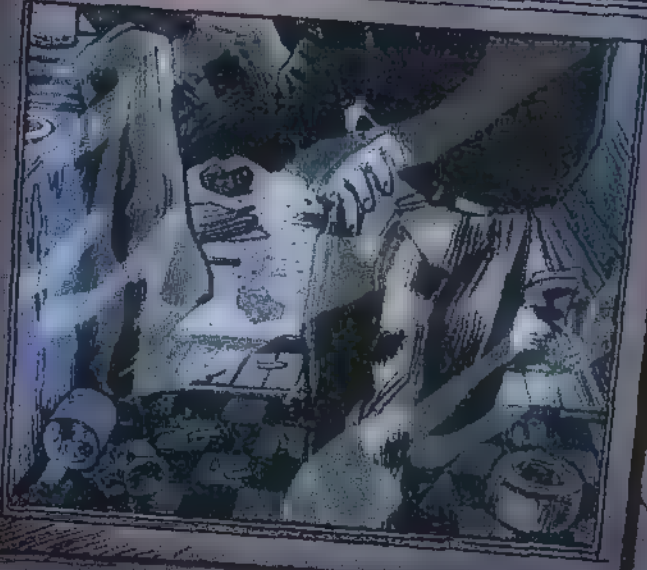
-- Jim C.





WHAT, UM,
SHOULD I DO
NOW?

YOU THINK THE STUFF
COULDA BEEN IN THE
GUY'S CAR? MAYBE THE
POLICE ALREADY--



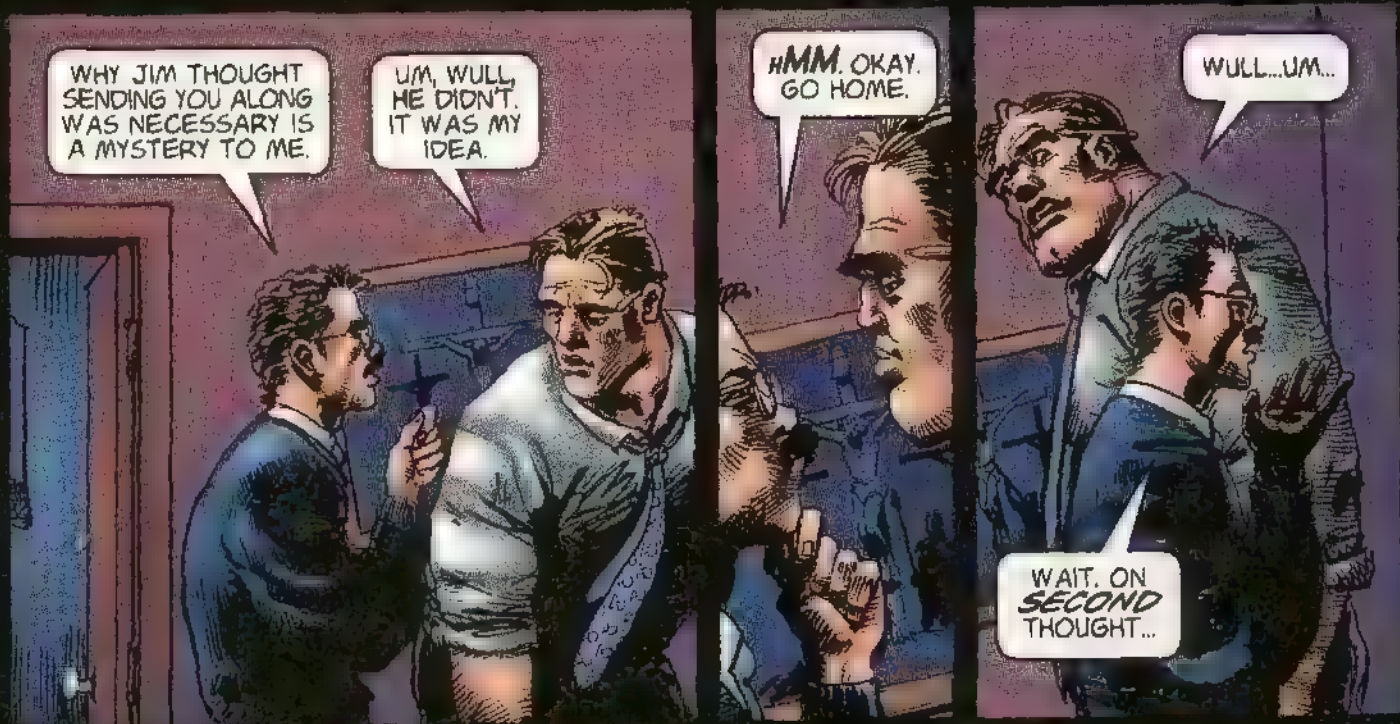
BE QUIET,
PLEASE.



LOOK, I'M
ONLY TRYING
TO--



SHUT THE
HELL UP!



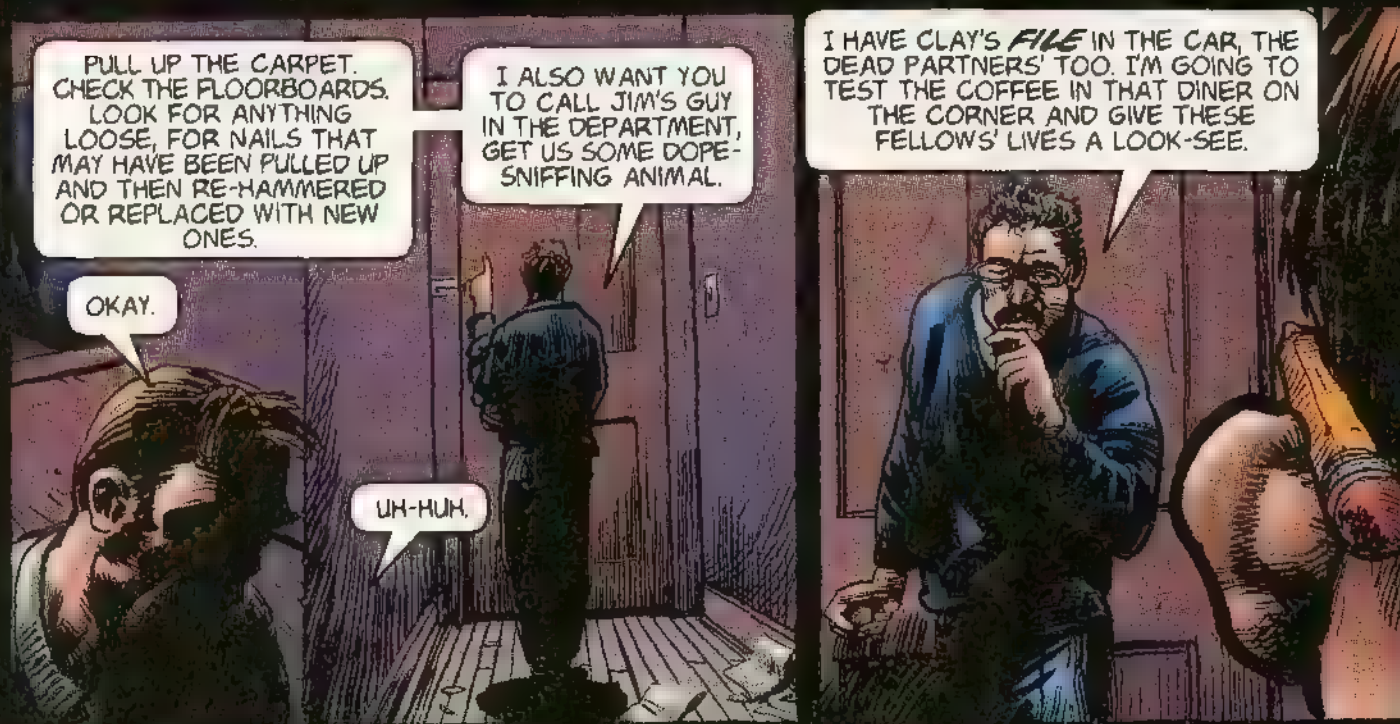
WHY JIM THOUGHT
SENDING YOU ALONG
WAS NECESSARY IS
A MYSTERY TO ME.

UM, WULL,
HE DIDN'T.
IT WAS MY
IDEA.

HMM. OKAY.
GO HOME.

WULL...UM...

WAIT. ON
SECOND
THOUGHT...



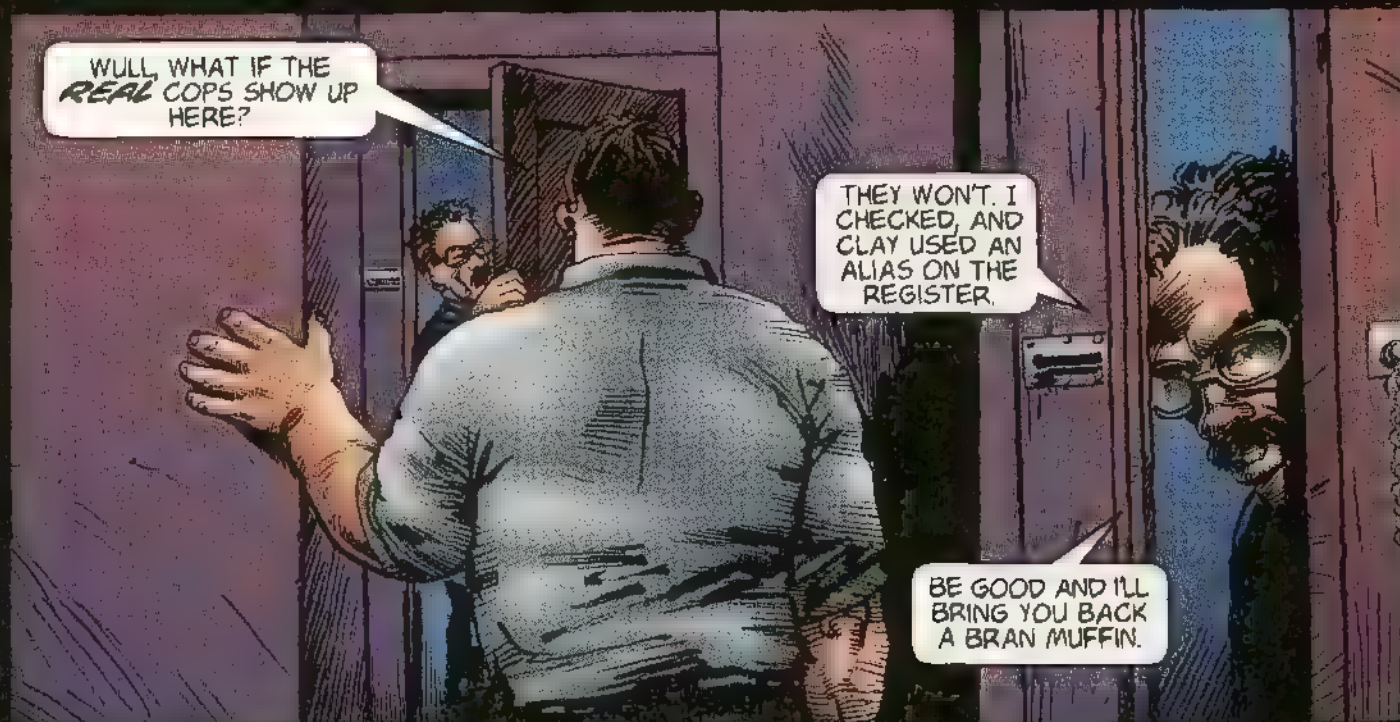
PULL UP THE CARPET.
CHECK THE FLOORBOARDS.
LOOK FOR ANYTHING
LOOSE, FOR NAILS THAT
MAY HAVE BEEN PULLED UP
AND THEN RE-HAMMERED
OR REPLACED WITH NEW
ONES.

OKAY.

I ALSO WANT YOU
TO CALL JIM'S GUY
IN THE DEPARTMENT,
GET US SOME DOPE-
SNIFFING ANIMAL.

UH-HUH.

I HAVE CLAY'S **FILE** IN THE CAR, THE
DEAD PARTNERS' TOO. I'M GOING TO
TEST THE COFFEE IN THAT DINER ON
THE CORNER AND GIVE THESE
FELLOWS' LIVES A LOOK-SEE.



WULL, WHAT IF THE
REAL COPS SHOW UP
HERE?

THEY WON'T. I
CHECKED, AND
CLAY USED AN
ALIAS ON THE
REGISTER.

BE GOOD AND I'LL
BRING YOU BACK
A BRAN MUFFIN.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF

MICKEY SPILLANE'S
MIKE DANGER



**"LOOK TO
THE SKIES!"**

RED MENACE PART 2

**BY MAX ALLAN COLLINS,
BRAD GORBY AND
TERRY BEATTY**

**BRAN
MUFFIN**
MY ASS.

I'LL NEVER
FIGGER YOU AND
THESE COLLEGE
TYPES OUT, JIM.

YOU GOT ME BEATING ON
ONE, AND TAKIN' FRIGGIN'
ORDERS FROM ANOTHER.

THAT YOU,
SMARTS?

AN ORDER
TAKING
BRUISER...

...JUST THE
MAN I
HOPED TO
MEET.

H-HEY, LADY,
UH, I WAS
JUST--

SURE,
SURE, FIND
ANYTHING?

WULL, UM, LOOK JUST
WHO ARE YOU, LADY?

I'M THE ONE
WHO'LL BE ASKING
THE QUESTIONS,
FELLA.



THEN THIS
WON'T HURT
HALF AS
BAD.



KRUEESH!



SCRATCH
ONE
MUFFIN....

CONTINUED

THE FINAL CHAPTER OF "WOMAN ABOUT TOWN"

SHOWDOWN!



NEIL GAIMAN'S

Lady JUSTICE

WRITTEN BY DANIEL BRERETON

ILLUSTRATED BY FRED HARPER

COVER BY DANIEL BRERETON

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EXPLODING ONTO
CD-ROM!

LEONARD NIMOY'S
PRIMORTALS



COMING CHRISTMAS '96 FROM



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